MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know what action has been taken on the representations made by the merchants?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*). So far, relief has been granted in one direction. The two days have been declared by Government to be two clear days exclusive of intervening holidays. The question of extension to seven days as in Alleppey has been ordered by Government to lie over.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): What prevents uniform conditions being maintained in both places?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Nothing. But Government thought that it would be better to take up the question of revision after some time.

Railway Station at Edava or Venkulam.

149 * MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what the total estimate for the proposed railway station at Edava or Venkulam is; and

(*b*) at what stage that proposal now is?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) & (*b*) The estimate has not yet been made final and is still under consideration

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know when the estimate was prepared first by the Railwsy expert?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): In April 1935.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know why there is so much delay in this matter?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The first report was examined by the Chief Engineer who found that there were some defects in it. It was therefore returned for correction and the second report that has now been received is being examined,

Admission of non-caste Hindu students in the Girls' Middle School at Thekketheruvu.

150 * MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any restriction in the matter of admitting girl students of non-caste Hindu communities, Christians and Muslims, in the Girls' Middle School at Thekketheruvu inside the Fort;

(*b*) whether they are aware of admission being refused to students of communities other than caste Hindus: and

(*c*) the reasons for refusing admission to such communities?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*):

(*a*) & (*b*). Yes.

(*c*) It is at present regarded as a special school for caste Hindus.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether there is any other girls' school in the State where such distinction is maintained in regard to admission of pupils?

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir; there are several.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether this particular school inside the Fort is maintained out of public funds?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir.

MR N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know why this invidious distinction is maintained in regard to admission of students in this school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): It is one of those schools, Sir, where admission has been restricted to caste Hindus and the whole question is now under consideration whether the school should not be removed to a site which is not objectionable and where it can be thrown open to all communities.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction has received applications from guardians of students explaining the difficulties with regard to the admission being refused in that school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): No, Sir.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether the Director has received any application from a Muslim guardian complaining that admission is refused in that school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag Director of Public Instruction*): I do not remember to have received any, Sir. The Inspectress may have received it.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Has the Director considered the point that people are put to great difficulties on account of this?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I do not know that they are put to great difficulties because there are so many schools in Trivandrum to which the girls can go.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the member whether there is any school near this one where non-caste Hindus are admitted?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): No, Sir; not quite near this school.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know from the member whether the public road near the school is thrown open to all castes and communities?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I cannot answer that question, Sir.—

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): In that case-

PRESIDENT: What is the 'in that case'? No case has yet arisen.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulm I*): I want to know from the Government whether that road is thrown open for all communities.

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I claim notice.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether that school was not constructed out of the privy purse of one of the late Maharajas of Travancore?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I am not aware, Sir. I thank the member for the information, if it is correct.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know why this school was constructed in the proximity of the temple?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instrucion*): There are several schools in the State, where, for one reason or another, such as proximity to temple or Palace, admission has been confined to caste-Hindus in the past.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): What is the special reason for restricting admission to non-caste-Hindus?

MR. C V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Proximity to the Palace.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know, are not all communities admitted in Palace?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*: Does that question arise Sir?

PRESIDENT: You said that, on account of proximity to Palace admission is restricted to caste-Hindus. But the Palace itself is open to all classes. That is the reason why he has put that question.

MR C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I have already said that the whole question is under consideration.

MR. CANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) What is that question please?

PRESIDENT: The member has said in clear terms that there are some institutions where admission is not free to all castes and creeds. That question is under the consideration of Government and that will be settled soon.

Fee concession in College classes.

151. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether fee concession is given to students of particular communities in College classes;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the communities that are entitled to such concession and the principles upon which those communities were chosen; and

(*c*) whether all the backward and depressed classes are included in the communities falling under part (*a*), and, if not, the reason for the same?

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